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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/107,486	06/30/1998	YOSHIKO SHIIMORI	0905-0206P	8134

2292   7590   01/29/2003

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/107,486	SHIIMORI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	King Y. Poon	2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>12 November 2002</u> .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-10, 12-20, 22-36, 38-43 and 45-50</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-10, 12-20, 22-36, 38-43 and 45-50</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and
> process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any
> person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to
> make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of
> carrying out his invention.

2.   Claims 1-10, 12-18, 29, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as

containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to

reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application

was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 1: The limitations of "storing film image data that has undergone display

direction conversion processing," "transmit a thumbnail of the film image data that has undergone

direction conversion processing," "reducing the data quantity of the film image data to be

transmitted to editing image data and further reducing to thumbnail image data, in response to the

image transmission command transmitted from the first transmission device transmitting the

thumbnail image data to the client computer, in response to the display information transmitted

from the second transmission device" and "the thumbnail image data and the editing image data

displayed in a correct direction on the display device due to the display direction conversion

processing" are subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to

reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application

was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 3: The limitations of "thinning out the editing image data" are subject

matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one

skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession

of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 5: The limitations of "storing film image data that has undergone display

direction conversion processing" are subject matter which was not described in the specification in

such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the

time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 9: The limitations of "transmit a thumbnail film image data generated

from the film image data stored in the image server, the thumbnail image data having been

subjected to display direction conversion processing" are subject matter which was not described

in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the

inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claims 10, 12: The limitations of "reading film image data," "color conversion

processing on the read film image data," and "transmitting the second color converted film image

data to the client computer after subjecting the second color converted film image data to display

direction conversion processing so that the film image is displayed on the display device in a

correct direction" are subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as

to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the

application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claims 13, 17: The limitations of "displaying a plurality of sample film images,"

"transmitted to the image data receiver after subjecting the sample film images to display direction

conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction" are

subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey

to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had

possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 18: The limitations of "displaying a plurality of sample film images on the

display device on the basis of the received image display data after subjecting the sample film

images to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a

correct direction" are subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as

to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the

application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claims 2, 4, 6-8, 14-16: Claim 2, 4, 14-16 are rejected because they depend on

rejected claims 1, 5, 13.

Regarding claims 29, 33: The limitations of "the information relating to the film image

data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display device in the client computer and the

number of colors of the display device" are subject matter which was not described in the

specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the

inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurahashi et al.

(U.S. Patent # 5,687,332) in view of Cok et al. (US 6,370,280) and Maniwa. (US 5,933,584)

Regarding claim 25: Kurahashi discloses an image communication system in which an

image server (23, fig. 2) and a client computer (22, fig. 1) are communicating with each other.

The client transmits image data (column 7 line 55-60) and information (editing data, column 7 line

67) relating to the image data to the server. The image server comprises: an image output device

(the function part of control program of the image server that is sending image data to printer 134

of fig. 13, column 11 line 59, column 12 line 33-38, fig. 13) for outputting an image on the basis

of the information relating to the image data transmitted from the client, (column 11 line 59,

column 12 line 1-40, fig. 13) and an information transmission device (server processing unit,

column 8 line 5-10) for transmitting, to the client computer, information (editing data, column 8

line 5-10) relating to the image data transmitted from the client computer. (Column 7 line 65-67,

column 8 line 1-10). The client further includes a retrieval mean (see # 324 of fig. 3) to retrieval

image data specified by the information relating to the image data transmitted from the image

server, wherein the image output device and the image information transmission device in the

image server, and the retrieval means in the client computer are each separate and distinct

component within the image communication system. (See above discussion)

Kurahashi does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method to include: using

film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method by the teaching of

Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a

manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught

by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic

images with low cost.

Kurahashi as modified by Cok still does not teach the image output device outputting the

film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion.

Maniwa, in the same area of storing image data teaches outputting images after subjecting the image to display direction conversion. (Column 29, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method to include: the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method by the teaching of Maniwa because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be displayed in a correct direction as taught by Maniwa at column 29, lines 55-61.

5. Claims 29, 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurahashi et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,687,332) in view of Cok et al. (US 6,370,280) and Hunt (US 5,764,235)

Regarding claims 29, 33: Kurahashi discloses an image communication system in which an image server (23, fig. 2) and a client computer (22, fig. 1) are communicating with each other. The client transmits image data (column 7 line 55-60) and information (editing data, column 7 line 67) relating to the image data to the server. The image server comprises: an image output device (the function part of control program of the image server that is sending image data to printer 134 of fig. 13, column 11 line 59, column 12 line 33-38, fig. 13) for outputting an image on the basis of the information relating to the image data transmitted from the client, (column 11 line 59,

column 12 line 1-40, fig. 13) and an information transmission device (server processing unit,

column 8 line 5-10) for transmitting, to the client computer, information (editing data, column 8

line 5-10) relating to the image data transmitted from the client computer. (Column 7 line 65-67,

column 8 line 1-10). The client further includes a retrieval mean (see # 324 of fig. 3) to retrieval

image data specified by the information relating to the image data transmitted from the image

server, wherein the image output device and the image information transmission device in the

image server, and the retrieval means in the client computer are each separate and distinct

component within the image communication system, (See above discussion) wherein the

information relating to the image data corresponding to the resolution (column 8, line 2) in the

client computer.

Kurahashi does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method to include: film

image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method by the teaching of

Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a

manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught

by Cok at column 2, lines 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic

images with low cost.

Kurahashi as modified by Cok still does not teach the information relating to the film

image data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display in the client computer and the

number of colors of the display device.

Hunt, in the same area of storing image data, teaches transmitting information relating to

the film image data corresponding to the type (a first display with a certain resolution is a type of

display and a display with a different resolution compare to the first display is another type of

display) and resolution (resolution, column 12, lines 55-60) of a display in the client computer and

the number of colors of the display device. (RGB color, column 12, line 24)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method to include:

transmitting information relating to the film image data corresponding to the type and resolution

of a display in the client computer and the number of colors of the display device.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method by the teaching of

Hunt because of the following reasons: (a) it would avoid the transmission of excess data as

taught by Hunt at column 2, lines 20-25; and (b) it would have allowed significantly better and

more intelligent use of the bandwidth of the network system as taught by Hunt at column 2, lines

25-30

6.   Claims 26, 30, 34-36, 38-43, 45-48, 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Kurahashi et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,687,332) in view of Cok et al. (US 6,370,280)

Regarding claims 26, 30: Kurahashi teaches a client computer (22 of fig. 2) used in an

image communication system in which an image server (23 of fig. 2) having a printer (134 of fig.

14) and the client computer are communicating with each other, comprising: a receiving device

(311 of fig. 3) for receiving a part of a printing template image data (fig. 1) which is transmitted

from the image server (column 8 line 1-8) and represents a part of a window synthesizing user

image (fig. 1), and which is used for printing processing in the printer (column 12 line 1-5); and a

synthesis device (314 of fig. 3) for synthesizing the received part of the printing template image

data and a part of user image data stored in the client computer. (See column 8, 9)

Kurahashi does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method to include: film

image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method by the teaching of

Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a

manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught

by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic

images with low cost.

Regarding claim 34: Kurahashi teaches to use processors to carry out the invention

disclosed in claims 26, 30 (See 312, 314 of fig. 3) A processor is controlled by a program stored

in a computer readable recording medium.

Regarding claims 35, 41: Kurahashi et al. teach an image editing system (see title, fig. 5) in

which an image server (see # 52 of fig. 5) communicates with client computers (see # 53 and 55

of fig. 5) and the client computer edits images and sends the editing information (execution data

indicating that an image is edited or reedited, if the information is that the image is to be edited by

the server, the information is an indication that the image is to be edited in the server and not in

the client) to the server, (Column 6 line 45-56), wherein execution data indicating that an image

is edited for the first time (see leaf node of column 10 line 12-13) or reedited after the initial

editing. (See column 10) The image server also sends editing image information to the client

computer (see column 8 line 1-10), and the server further includes: a judging device (the judging

program discussed at column 7 line 1-5) for judging whether the editing (both initial editing or re-

editing) is allowed to be edited in the client computer or the server base on transmitted execution

information and send editing information to the client computer that editing is allowed, an

allowance data transmission device (the program of the server that controls the sending image

data suitable for processing by client, column 7, lines 1-10) for transmitting, when the judgement

device judges that the initial editing or re-editing after the initial editing of the image is allowed,

allowance data to one or another client computer which as been allowed to edit or re-edit the image; and a receiving device (41 of fig. 4) for receiving editing information from the client computer. The client computer comprises a control device/ image editing device (see # 32 of fig. 2) for performing editing (reediting) in response to the receiving of allowance data.

Kurahashi does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method to include: film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method by the teaching of Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok at column 2, lines 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images with low cost.

Note: Kurahashi teaches to send editing information back and forth and to have the image to be edited in any one of the computers, and the computer can edit the image data more than one time. (See column 9 line 5-20) Therefore, the computer used in the client or the server to reedit

the image data (edit more than one time) is a reediting device, and the transmission device used to

transmit the reediting information is a reediting transmission device.

Regarding claim 36, 43: As discussed in the discussion of claim 35, Kurahashi teaches to

send editing (reediting) information about the editing image. The editing information is directed

to the portion that the image is to be edited because the portion that is not to be edited does not

have editing information.

Regarding claim 42: This is a method claim claiming the methods that the apparatus

performs in claim 41. Please see claim 41.

Regarding claim 38, 45: Kurahashi teaches that a plurality of computers can be form by a

group of two computers (see fig. 5) and because the computers are on a network, the network

would have other groups of computers such as the group of computers shown in fig. 13.

Regarding claim 39, 46: Kurahashi teaches that the client computer comprises a keyboard

(see fig. 5) (comment entry device) for entering editing information which can include comments

like enlarge. (See enlarge comment of fig. 1) Those comment would be included in the editing

information and sent to other computer/server in case that the other computer/server is chosen to

perform image editing.

Regarding claim 40, 47: Kurahashi teaches that the edited image (6 of fig. 1) is constituted

by a plurality of object images. (See fig. 1) The editing functions include deletion, (see column 10

line 55), addition, (see composite of fig. 1) and alteration. (See enlarge of fig. 1)

Regarding claim 48: Kurahashi teaches to use a computer (see client computer and server

of fig. 5) which has a program to control the editing system in claim 35. Please see claim 35.

Regarding claim 50: Kurahashi teaches that the image server includes an editing

information transmission device (41 of fig.4) for transmitting editing information relating to the

edited image which has been transmitted from one client computer. (See discussion on claim 35)

The client includes an image reediting device for reediting the edited image, (see fig.1 and

fig. 7) and a reediting information transmission device for transmitting reediting information

relating to the reedited image to the server. (See column 9 line 25-50)

7.   Claims 5-7, 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt

(US 5,764,235) in view of Cok et al. (US 6,370,280) and Maniwa. (US 5,933,584)

Regarding claim 5: Hunt discloses an image communication system (see fig. 1A) in which

an image server and a client computer having a display (see #330 of fig. 3) communicating with

each other, wherein the image server stores image data. (See column 4 line 66) The server

comprises: a receiving device (106 of fig. 1) receiving a command from a first transmission device

(the function part of the control program that is sending a request, column 3 line 2) in the client

computer to transmit image data (see column 3 line 2, 106 of fig. 1) stored in the image server,

and to display, (330 fig. 3) in the client, information relating the display (thumbnail or low

quality) that is transmitted from a second transmission device (the function part of the control

program that is sending the image control information, column 3 line 3) of the client (see column

9 line 1-5, column 3 line 1-10), the first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of image data that the image server is required to process; (column 6 line 15-30) a quantity reduction device (see column 2 line 64-65, #114 of fig. 1B) to reduce image data to be transmitted according to the display information received from the client; and an image data transmission device (the function part of the program that is controlling the server to transmit image, column 2 line 30-55) transmitting, to the client computer, the reduced image data.

Hunt does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method to include: using film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method by the teaching of Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images with low cost.

Hunt as modified by Cok still do not teach the image output device store the film image

after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion such that the film image data is

displayed in correct direction on the display device.

Maniwa, in the same area of storing image data, teaches storing the image after subjecting

the image to display direction conversion such that the film image data is displayed in correct

direction on the display device. (Column 29, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Hunt/Cok image processing method to include: store the

film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion such that the film image

data is displayed in correct direction on the display device.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hunt/Cok image processing method by the teaching of

Maniwa because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be displayed in

a correct direction as taught by Maniwa at column 29, lines 55-61.

Regarding claim 6: Hunt teaches the display information is information relating to the

maximum number of color (amount of RGB data, column 12, line 23, that is suitable for display)

which can be displayed on the display device, and wherein the data quantity reduction device

includes color reduction device (the program of the processing 1100, column 12, lines 15-17, that

determines the adjusted amount of data to be transmitted) for reducing a number of colors of an

image (RGB that is not transmitted, e.g., column 12, lines 23-25, and column 12, lines 35-45)

represented by the image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the

maximum number of colors. (amount of RGB data, column 12, line 23, that is suitable for display)

Regarding claim 7: Hunt teaches the display information is information relating to the

resolution of the display device (column 12, line 52) and wherein the data quantity reduction

device includes thinning means (1110, column 12, lines 14-20) for thinning out the image data

(thinning out the additional data, column 12, lines 35-43, i.e., the additional data that is not

originally transmitted) on the basis of the information relating to the resolution, to be transmitted

in response to the image transmission command, so as to reduce the data quantity of the image

data. (Column 12, lines 15-17, column 12, lines 35-40).

Regarding claims 13, 17, 18: Hunt discloses an image communication system (see

fig. 1A) in which an image server and a client computer (image data receiver) having a display

(see #330 of fig. 3) are communicating with each other. The image server stores image data. (See

column 4 line 66) The image server also comprises: an image data display transmission device (see

the transmission medium between # 106 and # 304 of fig. 3) for transmitting image display data

for displaying a plurality of sample images (various images, column 13, lines 20-25) in side by side

fashion (all images on a display are located in a side by side (right, up, top, bottom) fashion when

the various images are displayed on a display device) for comparing and selection by a user, (see

column 13 line 20-30) each of the sample images having different data size/characteristic (see

column 8 line 46-68, column 9 line 1-5) and being transmitted to the client computer. The client

computer comprises an image characteristics setting device (display, # 330 of fig. 3) for receiving

the transmitted image display data, for displaying the plurality of sample images on the display

device on the basis of the received image data, and for determining characteristics relating to the

image selected from the display sample images; (column 13, lines 20-25) and a transmission

device (see # 324 of fig. 3) for transmitting image characteristics to the server. (See supplied

information and amount of data (data size) of abstract).

Hunt does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method to include: using film

image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method by the teaching of Cok

because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner

that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok

at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images

with low cost.

Hunt as modified by Cok still do not teach subjecting the sample film image to display

direction conversion such that the film image data is displayed in correct direction on the display

device.

Maniwa, in the same area of storing image data, teaches storing the image after subjecting

the image to display direction conversion such that the film image data is displayed in correct

direction on the display device. (Column 29, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Hunt/Cok image processing method to include:

subjecting the sample film image to display direction conversion such that the film image data is

displayed in correct direction on the display device.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hunt/Cok image processing method by the teaching of

Maniwa because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be displayed in

a correct direction as taught by Maniwa at column 29, lines 55-61.

Regarding claim 14: Hunt teaches wherein the image display data transmission device

transmits the image display data (image control data, column 11, lines 30-35) representing the

plurality of images having different tonalities (different quality of images, column 12, lines 35-40)

to the image receiver.

Regarding claim 15: Hunt teaches wherein the image server further includes an image data

transmission device for transmitting, if the image data receiver can change the characteristic of the

image displayed (see display can change to a better quality, column 12, lines 35-45) on the display

device, image data whose characteristics have not been adjusted, (the data sent by the server that

is before the additional data is being sent, column 12, lines 35-45), while transmitting, if the image

data receiver cannot change (the quality that limited by the author, column 12, lines 60-65) the characteristics of the displayed on the display device, image data whose characteristics has been adjusted (appropriate amounts of image data, column 13, line 46) in accordance with the image data characteristics data (request for image, column 13, line 43) transmitted from the image characteristics data transmission device to the image data receiver.

Regarding claim 16: Hunt teaches that the image data size can be stored in the server. (See fig. 6A) (at least one)

8.   Claims 19, 20, 22-24, 27, 28, 31, 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt (US 5,764,235) in view of Cok et al. (US 6,370,280)

Regarding claims 19, 27, 31: Hunt discloses an image communication system (see fig. 1A) in which a client computer (102, fig. 1, 102 is a client because it would request, from another computer, information that is needed by the server to send the appropriate amount of data, column 13, lines 35-40) is communicating with a server (104, fig. 1A. 104 is a server because it would serve the data that 102 is request, column 13, lines 35-40) having a display (see #330 of fig. 3) the client computer comprising: a quantity reduction device (see column 2 line 64-65) for reducing the data quantity of image data to be transmitted to the server so that the data quantity of the image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the image data representing the image to be outputted from the output device/display; and an image transmission device (the program of the client that is controlling the transmitting of image data, column 12,

lines 35-45) to transmit the reduced image data (See column 2 line 30-32) to the server, wherein the image data quantity reduction device further includes: print image area designation means (the control of the client that is controlling the print format such that the image is printed on an area of recording medium, column 12, lines 44-60) for designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by image data of one frame (one print); and partial image data extraction means (that program of the client that is controlling the amount of data to be sent, column 12, lines 35-45) for extracting partial image area data (the addition data that is not sent before, column 12, lines 35-45) representing the designated image area from the image data of one frame.

Hunt does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method to include: film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method by the teaching of Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images with low cost.

Regarding claim 20: Hunt teaches wherein the image quantity reduction device includes at least one of resolution conversion means (processing 1100, that converts image format with the correct resolution, column 12, lines 14-25, column 12, line 55-60) for converting the image data to be transmitted into image data having a resolution which is less than or equal to the resolution of the image output from the output device (display resolution, column 12, lines 55-60), so as to reduce the quantity of the image data, and thinning means (the program of the client that is controlling the image size to be display, column 9, lines 1-5) for thinning the image data such that the size is equal to the size of the output image.

Regarding claim 22: Hunt teaches wherein the image data quantity reduction device includes a compression rate determine means (114 of 1B) for determining the compression rate (the same image is being compressed into different image data size, column 8, lines 45-67) of the image data to be transmitted to the image server on the basis of the speed of transmission of the image data between the image server and the client, (different data sizes, column 8, lines 45-67, used for reducing transmission time, abstract), image data compression means (the program of the client that is performing the data compression, column 12, lines 15-20) for compressing the image data at the predetermined compression rate.

Regarding 23, 28, 32: Hunt teaches a client computer (104 fig. 1) used in an image communication system (fig. 1) in which an image server and the client computer communicate with each other, comprising: a compression rate setting device (310 of fig. 3) for setting the compression rate of image data; (the same image is being compressed into different image data

size, column 8, lines 45-67) a calculation device (310 of fig. 3) for calculating information

(different data sizes, column 8, lines 45-67, used for reducing transmission time, abstract) relating

to the time required for transmission in a case where the image data compressed at the set

compression rate; (the same image is being compressed into different image data size, column 8,

lines 45-67) and a display for displaying (# 330 of fig. 3) information (different data size, column

8, lines 45-67, column 9, lines 1-5) related to the calculated time for transmission. (See column 9

line 15-25, fig.6)

Hunt does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method to include: film image

data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method by the teaching of Cok

because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner

that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok

at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images

with low cost.

Regarding claim 24: Hunt teaches that the client computer has a display control device (310 of fig. 3) for controlling the display to display an image represented by the image data compressed at the set compression rate. (See column 9 line 1-5)

9.   Claims 10, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uda et al. (US 5,720,013) in view of Maniwa (US 5,933,584) and Cok et al. (US 6,370,280)

Regarding claims 10, 12: Uda discloses an image server (see # 107 of fig.1), used in an image communication system in which the server having a printer (104s of fig. 1) and the client computer having a display, (see # 106 of fig. 1) are communicating with each other, comprising: an image reading device, (see # 103a of fig. 1) a first color conversion device (see 601 of fig. 6) for performing first color conversion processing on the read image in accordance with a characteristic of the printer, a print controller (402 of fig. 4) for controlling the printer so as to print an image from the first color converted image data, a second color conversion device (503, column 6, lines 55-60) for performing second color conversion processing on the read image data in accordance with a characteristic of the display device (RGB, column 6, line 60); and an image transmission device (202, fig. 2) for transmitting the second color converted image data to the client computer. (Column 11, lines 45-50)

Uda does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Uda's image processing method to include: using film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Uda's image processing method by the teaching of Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images with low cost.

Uda as modified by Cok still does not teach the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion so that the film image is displayed on the display in a correct direction.

Maniwa, in the same area of storing image data teaches outputting image after subjecting the image to display direction conversion so that the film image is displayed on the display in a correct direction. (Column 29, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Uda/Cok image processing method to include: the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion so that the film image is displayed on the display in a correct direction.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Uda/Cok image processing method by the teaching of

Maniwa because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be displayed in

a correct direction as taught by Maniwa at column 29, lines 55-61.

10.   Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt et al in view

of Maniwa and Cok As applied to claim 5 above and further in view of Uda et al. (US 5,720,013)

        Regarding claim 8: Hunt teaches a color conversion processing means (the program of the

processing 1100 that selects the format for display, column 12, lines 14-30) of the reduced image

data on the basis of data representing characteristics of the display.

        Hunt/Cok/Maniwa does not teach a printer for the server to print.

        Uda teaches to provide a printer for a server to print image data for a host. (See fig. 1)

Hunt and Uda are combinable because they are from the same area of using a server to store

image data.

        Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hunt/Cok/Maniwa image server to include: a printer for the

server for printing images.

        It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to have modified Hunt/Cok/Maniwa image server by the teaching of Uda because of the

following reasons: (a) it would have allowed remote users to utilize a distant printer which is effective as discussed in column 1 line 58-60 of Uda.

11.   Claim 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uda et al. (US 5,720,013) in view of Maniwa (US 5,933,584) and Cok et al. (US 6,370,280) as applied to claim 10, and further in view of Hirono et al. (US 5,926,154)

Regarding claim 49: Uda discloses all of the claim limitations except a display direction conversion processing device for displaying the image data in normal position.

Hirono teaches that inputting an image position into an image memory and to display the image in normal position. (See column 7 line 54-67 and column 8 line 1-7) Uda, and Hirono are combinable because they are from the same area of displaying an image.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image server of Uda/Maniwa/Cok to include: a display direction conversion processing device to display the image in normal position.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image server of Uda/Maniwa/Cok by the teaching of Hirono because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed a user to scan in an image at any position and read out the image at a normal position as discussed in column 8 line 6-7 of Hirono which is desirable.

Note: the display direction converted data in the server is image data.

Response to Arguments

12.   Applicant's arguments filed 11/12/2002 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

With respect to applicant's argument that Kurahashi does not teach subjecting film image

data to display direction conversion processing prior to transmitting to client, has been

considered.

In reply: Kurahashi does not teach the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method to include: using

film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method by the teaching of

Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a

manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught

by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic

images with low cost.

Kurahashi as modified by Cok still does not teach the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion.

Maniwa, in the same area of storing image data teaches outputting image after subjecting the image to display direction conversion. (Column 29, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method to include: the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method by the teaching of Maniwa because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be displayed in a correct direction as taught by Maniwa at column 29, lines 55-61.

With respect to applicant's argument that Kurahashi does not teach sending type of display information has been considered.

In reply: Kurahashi does not teach the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method to include: film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi's image processing method by the teaching of

Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a

manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught

by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic

images with low cost.

Kurahashi as modified by Cok still does not teach the information relating to the film

image data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display in the client computer and the

number of colors of the display device.

Hunt, in the same area of storing image data, teaches transmitting information relating to

the film image data corresponding to the type (a first display with a certain resolution is a type of

display and a display with a different resolution compare to the first display is another type of

display) and resolution (resolution, column 12, lines 55-60) of a display in the client computer and

the number of colors of the display device. (RGB color, column 12, line 24)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method to include:

transmitting information relating to the film image data corresponding to the type and resolution

of a display in the client computer and the number of colors of the display device.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Kurahashi/Cok image processing method by the teaching of

Hunt because of the following reasons: (a) it would avoid the transmission of excess data as taught by Hunt at column 2, lines 20-25; and (b) it would significantly better and more intelligent use of the bandwidth of the network system as taught by Hunt at column 2, lines 25-30.

With respect to applicant's argument that Kurahashi does not teach judge whether initial editing is allowed based on a transmitted command, has been considered.

In reply: Column 6, lines 45-56, Kurahashi teaches allowing the server to process image (editing/reediting) by analysis of editing data. In other words, the editing data contains information (command) to judge whether editing is allowed.

Note: Kurahashi teaches to send editing information back and forth and to have the image to be edited in any one of the computers, and the computer can edit the image data more than one time. (See column 9 line 5-20) Therefore, editing is equivalent to reediting.

With respect to applicant's argument that Hunt does not teach client reducing film image data and transmitting the reduced data to server, has been considered.

In reply: Hunt discloses an image communication system (see fig. 1A) in which a client computer (102, fig. 1, 102 is a client because it would request, from another computer, information that is needed by the server to send the appropriate amount of data, column 13, lines 35-40) is communicating with a server (104, fig. 1A. 104 is a server because it would serve the data that 102 is request, column 13, lines 35-40) having a display (see #330 of fig. 3) the client computer comprising: a quantity reduction device (see column 2 line 64-65) for reducing the data quantity of image data to be transmitted to the server so that the data quantity of the image data

to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the image data representing the

image to be outputted from the output device/display; and an image transmission device (the

program of the client that is controlling the transmitting of image data, column 12, lines 35-45) to

transmit the reduced image data (See column 2 line 30-32) to the server, wherein the image data

quantity reduction device further includes: print image area designation means (the control of the

client that is controlling the print format such that the image is printed on an area of recording

medium, column 12, lines 44-60) for designating an image area to be printed of an image

represented by image data of one frame (one print); and partial image data extraction means (that

program of the client that is controlling the amount of data to be sent, column 12, lines 35-45) for

extracting partial image area data (the addition data that is not sent before, column 12, lines 35-

45) representing the designated image area from the image data of one frame.

Hunt does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method to include: film image

data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hunt's image processing method by the teaching of Cok

because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner

that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok

at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images

with low cost.

With respect to applicant's argument that Uda does not teach transmitting color converted

film image data to client after subjecting the color converted film image data to display

conversion, has been considered.

In reply: Uda discloses an image server (see # 107 of fig.1), used in an image

communication system in which the server having a printer (104s of fig. 1) and the client

computer having a display, (see # 106 of fig. 1) are communicating with each other, comprising:

an image reading device, (see # 103a of fig. 1) a first color conversion device (see 601 of fig. 6)

for performing first color conversion processing on the read image in accordance with a

characteristic of the printer, a print controller (402 of fig. 4) for controlling the printer so as to

print an image from the first color converted image data, a second color conversion device (503,

column 6, lines 55-60) for performing second color conversion processing on the read image data

in accordance with a characteristic of the display device (RGB, column 6, line 60); and an image

transmission device (202, fig. 2) for transmitting the second color converted image data to the

client computer. (Column 11, lines 45-50)

Uda does not teach that the image data are film image data.

Cok, in the same area of scanning image data, teaches to create film image data to be

stored in a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Uda's image processing method to include: using film image data as image data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Uda's image processing method by the teaching of Cok because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be created in a manner that is very flexible and is usable over a wide distribution to diverse producers, as taught by Cok at column 2, line 23-30; and (b) film image would have allowed users to create realistic images with low cost.

Uda as modified by Cok still does not teach the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion so that the film image is displayed on the display in a correct direction.

Maniwa, in the same area of storing image data teaches outputting image after subjecting the image to display direction conversion so that the film image is displayed on the display in a correct direction. (Column 29, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Uda/Cok image processing method to include: the image output device outputting the film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion so that the film image is displayed on the display in a correct direction.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Uda/Cok image processing method by the teaching of

Maniwa because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the image to be displayed in

a correct direction as taught by Maniwa at column 29, lines 55-61.

Action is Final, Necessitated by Amendment

13.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground of rejection presented in this office

action. Therefore, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP 706.07(a). Applicant is

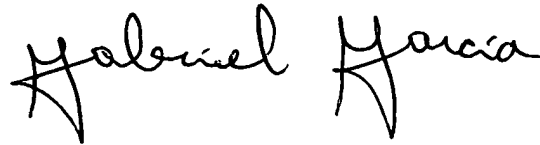reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTHS shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date

of this final action.

Conclusion

14.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is (703) 305-0892 or to Supervisor

Mr. David Moore whose phone number is (703) 308-7452.

January 27, 2003

GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER